

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Annual Town Meeting Warrant
May 8, 2009

Worcester, ss.

To either of the Constables of the Town of Royalston in the County of Worcester, GREETINGS:

IN THE NAME OF **THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said Town, qualified to vote in elections and in Town affairs, to meet at the Royalston Community School in said Royalston on Friday, the eighth day of May next, at 7:00 p.m. in the evening, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1. To choose one or more persons to act for the town in lawsuits.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds in the Treasury, any sums of money to meet the appropriations under this warrant, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 3. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and to issue or renew notes as may be given for a period of less than one year, in accordance with Section 17, Chapter 44 of the General Laws as amended, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to fix the salaries and compensation of all elected officers of the Town as provided by Mass. General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approve

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 5. To see if the Town will authorize the Town Treasurer to pay a sum of money for **total** debt, raised and appropriated through debt exclusion, Fifty Three Thousand Dollars (\$53,000) for the Royalston Community School, and Eighteen Thousand Four Hundred Forty Two Dollars (\$18,442) for the Athol-Royalston Middle School, or to act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Thirty Seven Thousand Ten Dollars (\$37,010) to operate the sewer system, the fees from the sewer users to be returned to the Town to this account, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) for capital expenditures for the waste water treatment plant, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health Agent Revolving Account to be expended for the administration and enforcement of Title V and other health regulations; that departmental receipts from persons making application for septic installation and other Board of Health permits be credited to said fund; that the Board of Health be authorized to spend monies in the Fund, and that the limit on the total amount spent from the account for the ensuing year shall be Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Plumbing Inspector Revolving Account to be expended for the purpose of paying an inspector; that department receipts from fees charged to persons installing plumbing be credited to said account, that the Plumbing Inspector be authorized to spend monies in the account, and that the limit on the total amount spent from the account for the ensuing year shall be Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000); or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Wiring Inspector Revolving Account to be expended for the purpose of paying an inspector; that department receipts charged to persons who are installing wiring be credited to said account, that the wiring inspector be authorized to spend monies in the account, and that the limit on the total amount spent from the account for the ensuing year shall be Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000), or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to pay the sum of Six Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$650,000) for engineering, plans, and authorized roadwork up to the reimbursable amount according to the provisions of Chapter 90 Massachusetts General Laws and/or STRAP grant, and the same to be spent with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and Massachusetts Highway Department, or to act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Thirty One Thousand One Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$31,116) for the fifth payment of a five year lease of a 10-wheel dump truck for the Highway Department, or take any action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Department of Public Works

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Forty-One Thousand One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$41,150) for the fourth payment of a five year lease/purchase of a road grader for the Highway Department, or take any action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Department of Public Works

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 14. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) to provide police patrols of Tully Dam area to be reimbursed by the Corps of Engineers, or take any action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 15. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$2,300) to fund the summer playground program, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Not Recommended

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Not Recommended

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 16. To see if the Town will vote to enter into a five year lease/purchase agreement for a new Ford Expedition to replace the 2000 Ford Explore currently used by the Police Department, the first two payments to be made with Community Policing funds in the amount of Fourteen Thousand Dollars (\$14,000), the remaining three (3) annual payments of Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000) to begin July 1, 2012 to be paid with funds received through Community Policing grants and/or funds raised and appropriated at the Annual Town Meeting, or take any other action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Split Vote

Sponsor: Police Department

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Not Recommended

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 17. To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 57C, for the purpose of establishing a semi-annual preliminary tax billing system, to be effective beginning in fiscal year 2010, or take any other action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 18. To see if the Town will vote to impose the charges of a lien posted against 63 North Fitzwilliam Road and to follow Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, Section 58, instructing the tax collector to certify this amount, the sum of Four Thousand Seventy Five Dollars (\$4,075) to the Assessors, who shall add it to the real estate tax, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Building Inspector
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to clean up the site of 2 King Street, to include grading and reseeding of the property, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Not Recommended
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Not Recommended

Sponsor: Building Inspector
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 20. To see if the Town will authorize the Treasurer to borrow funds under Chapter 44, Section 8, Clause 9, for the Board authorized state of emergency over a period of two (2) years to cover the December 2008 Ice Storm costs, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 21. To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the General Fund, the amount of Thirty Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$38,500), received from the insurance company, to purchase a dump truck for the DPW, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Department of Public Works
Vote Required: Simple Majority

(The dump truck was totaled in an accident this past winter. The insurance paid \$38,500 in the claim to the Town and it was deposited in the General Fund. A replacement truck will be purchased with the funds.)

Article 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Six Thousand Eight Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$6,816) for radio equipment to continue the conversion needed for Shelburne Control Dispatch services, or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Dispatch Committee
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 23. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire the following land parcels and/or rights in land parcels for the purpose of obtaining a secure and public right of way. This will allow for construction, maintenance, and roadway safety improvements on the Athol Richmond Road (Route 32) Rehabilitation Project.

	<u>Total # Parcels</u>	<u>Area (Square Feet)</u>
In Fee	0	0
Permanent Easements	31	11,699
Temporary Easements	18	12,869

Further, that the Selectmen may acquire these parcels, or modification of these parcels or other required parcels, through all legal means. This includes donations, purchase, or eminent domain. The subject parcels are currently identified on plans

Drafted by: Chappell Engineering Associates, Dated: March 2009,
Titled: Preliminary Right of Way Plans, Route 32.

Further, to raise and appropriate an amount of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to defray any associated right of way expenses connected with this project.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved from Stabilization

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved by Raise & Appr.

Vote Required: (From Stabilization: 2/3 Majority); (By R&A: Simple Majority)

Article 24. To see if the Town will vote to authorize a Post Office Revolving account to be expended for the administration and operation of the Postal Contract; departmental receipts to be credited to said fund; that the Post Office Manager be authorized to spend monies in the fund, and that the limit on the total amount spent from the account for the ensuing year shall be Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500), or act anything thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 25. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Eight Thousand Dollars (\$8,000) to purchase new tires for the loader, or take any other action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Table to Reconvened ATM

Sponsor: DPW

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Table to Reconvened ATM

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 26. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to purchase a new brush chipper motor for the Highway Department, or take any other action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Not Recommended

Sponsor: Department of Public Works

Advisory Committee Recommendation: Not Recommended

Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 27. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to purchase replacement hose for the Fire Department, or take any other action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Fire Department
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 28. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of Five Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Seven Dollars (\$5,847), as Royalston's share of the cost for replacing the outdoor bleachers at the Athol High School, or take any other action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 29. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Assessors to use a portion of funds in the Treasury to reduce the tax rate for this coming year, or to take any other action thereon.

Selectmen Recommendation: Approved
Advisory Committee Recommendation: Approved

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen
Vote Required: Simple Majority

Article 30. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or take from available funds the sum of One Million, Five Hundred Sixty Six Thousand, Five Hundred Ninety Nine Dollars (\$1,566,599) to fund the budgets for the following accounts, or take any action thereon.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>FY 2009 Final/fincom</u>	<u>FY2010 Selectboard</u>	<u>Dept. Request FY2010</u>	<u>Fin Com FY2010</u>
1	Animal Control Expense	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,200.00	\$3,000.00
2	Animal Control Salary	\$6,460.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,460.00	\$5,000.00
3	Animal Inspector	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00	\$630.00
4	Assessors Clerk Wages	\$6,663.00	\$7,144.00	\$7,144.00	\$7,144.00
5	Assessors Expenses	\$4,731.00	\$4,544.00	\$4,544.00	\$4,544.00
6	Assessors WA- Chair	\$1,615.00	\$1,615.00	\$1,615.00	\$1,615.00
7	Assessors WA –Member	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
8	Assessors WA -Member	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00
9	Athol-Royalston School	\$437,263.00	\$404,252.00	\$404,252.00	\$404,252.00
10	Bartlett Fund, JN Treasurer	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
11	Board of Health Expenses	\$75,070.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
12	Board of Health Wages	\$11,000.00	\$9,250.00	\$10,500.00	\$9,250.00
13	Bd. Of Health - Management	\$2,385.00	\$2,385.00	\$2,385.00	\$2,385.00
14	Bd. Of Health Chair	\$1,230.00	\$1,230.00	\$1,230.00	\$1,230.00
15	Bd. Of Health Clerk	\$1,128.00	\$1,128.00	\$1,128.00	\$1,128.00
16	Bd. Of Health Member	\$1,025.00	\$1,025.00	\$1,025.00	\$1,025.00
17	Bonds for Town Officials	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
18	Building Inspector Exp.	\$3,350.00	\$2,843.00	\$3,834.00	\$2,843.00
19	Building Inspector Salary	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00

<u>NO.</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>FY 2009 Final/fincom</u>	<u>FY2010 Selectboard</u>	<u>Dept. Request FY2010</u>	<u>Fin Com FY2010</u>
20	Care of Comm. & Parks	\$6,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$6,500.00	\$3,000.00
21	Care of Town Clock	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$52.00
22	Cemeteries Care	\$16,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$15,000.00
23	Cemetery Commissioner	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
24	Cemetery Member	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
25	Cemetery Member	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
26	Clearance Tax Titles	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
27	Civilian Defense (Emer. Mgmt)	\$1,800.00	\$5,000.00	\$7,400.00	\$5,000.00
28	Conservation Comm.	\$500.00	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$450.00
29	Council on Aging	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
30	Custodian of Tax Title	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
31	DPW - Highway General	\$77,450.00	\$69,705.00	\$77,450.00	\$69,705.00
32	DPW- Highway Maint.	\$31,000.00	\$31,000.00	\$31,000.00	\$31,000.00
33	DPW - Salaries	\$198,671.00	\$183,171.00	\$202,423.00	\$183,171.00
34	DPW - Contractor Wages	-	-	-	-
35	DPW - Snow and ICE	\$100,000.00	\$145,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$140,000.00
36	Elderly Transportation	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
37	Elections	\$8,427.00	\$6,460.00	\$6,460.00	\$6,460.00
38	Fire Wages / Chief	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
39	Fire Expenses / Wages	\$67,958.00	\$61,162.00	\$71,700.00	\$61,162.00
40	Dispatch Fire/Police	\$19,411.00	\$17,318.00	\$17,318.00	\$14,318.00
41	Historic District Commission	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
42	Insurance (property)	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00
43	Insurance (NORWORCO)	\$2,000.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
44	Insurance (medical)	\$70,000.00	\$66,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$66,000.00
45	Interest	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00
46	Legal Counsel	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,000.00
47	Library Expense	\$20,530.00	\$17,487.00	\$17,487.00	\$17,487.00
48	Library Wages	\$28,290.00	\$25,809.00	\$28,109.00	\$25,809.00
49	Medicare	\$6,600.00	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$9,000.00
50	Contributory Unemployment	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
51	Memorial Day / Soldiers Graves	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00	\$750.00
52	Moderator	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
53	Montachusett Reg. Tech School	\$56,499.00	\$51,238.00	\$51,238.00	\$51,238.00
54	Planning Board	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
55	Police Dept. Expense/Sal	\$75,850.00	\$69,500.00	\$77,261.00	\$69,500.00
56	Public Halls	\$55,000.00	\$48,315.00	\$50,315.00	\$48,315.00
57	Open Space Committee	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
58	Reserve Fund	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
59	Registrars of Voters	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00

<u>NO.</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>FY 2009 Final/fincom</u>	<u>FY2010 Selectboard</u>	<u>Dept. Request FY2010</u>	<u>Fin Com FY2010</u>
60	Selectmen Chairman	\$2,477.00	\$2,477.00	\$2,477.00	\$2,477.00
61	Selectmen Member	\$2,153.00	\$2,153.00	\$2,153.00	\$2,153.00
62	Selectmen Member	\$2,153.00	\$2,153.00	\$2,153.00	\$2,153.00
63	Selectmen - Misc.	\$2,400.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
64	Selectmen's Secretary	\$2,472.00	\$2,472.00	\$2,472.00	\$2,472.00
65	Administrative Assistant	\$14,158.00	\$14,158.00	\$14,158.00	\$14,158.00
66	Admin. Assistant Misc.	\$750.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
67	Sewer Comm. Chair	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
68	Sewer Comm. Member	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
69	Sewer Comm. Member	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
70	Street Lights	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$2,000.00
71	Tax Collector	\$12,038.00	\$12,038.00	\$12,038.00	\$12,038.00
72	Tax Collector - Misc.	\$4,800.00	\$4,150.00	\$4,150.00	\$4,150.00
73	Town Account Exp.	\$2,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
74	Town Acct. Salary	\$11,038.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
75	Town Acct. - Schedule A	\$225.00	-	-	-
76	Town Clerk Wages	\$8,200.00	\$8,200.00	\$8,200.00	\$8,200.00
77	Town Clerk Misc.	\$1,700.00	\$1,530.00	\$1,530.00	\$1,530.00
78	Print Town Reports/St lists	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,700.00	\$2,000.00
79	Treasurer	\$11,038.00	\$11,038.00	\$11,038.00	\$11,038.00
80	Treasurer - Misc.	\$2,600.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
81	Tree Department	\$800.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
82	Veterans Benefit	\$7,600.00	\$10,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$10,000.00
83	Veterans Services	\$3,063.00	\$3,505.00	\$3,505.00	\$3,505.00
84	Workers Comp.	\$11,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
85	Worcester County Retire.	\$22,777.00	\$24,892.00	\$24,892.00	\$24,892.00
86	Zoning Taskforce				
87	Zoning Board of Appeals	\$450.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$300.00
88	Technology	\$2,500.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
89	Post Office		\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
		\$1,635,150	\$1,573,099	\$1,592,296	\$1,564,099

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at the Town Hall, Post Office, Whitney Hall, Country Store, and West Royalston Bulletin Board in said Town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

HEREOF FAIL NOT, and make due return of this Warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Town Clerk, at the time and place of meeting, as aforesaid.

Given under our hands this
Nine.

of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and

SELECTMEN OF ROYALSTON

Linda Alger, Chairperson

Andrew West, Clerk

Member

A true copy, attest:

, Constable.

Worcester, ss.

PURSUANT TO THE WITHIN WARRANT, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Royalston by posting up attested copies of the same at the Town Hall, Post Office, Whitney Hall, General Store, and West Royalston Bulletin Board, seven days before the date of the meeting, as within directed.

Constable of Royalston